Application No. 10/534,649

Paper Dated: February 26, 2009

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of November 26, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 3135-051381

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1-15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A package for containing a plurality of products for heating, in particular food products, comprising:

a container, manufactured from a material for once-only use, provided with at least two compartments shielded from the environment wherein the compartments are separated medium-tightly from each other such that a medium cannot flow therebetween, and

the individual compartments are provided with <u>openable</u> passage openings for <u>through which</u> a medium <u>can flow when the passage openings are in an open position</u> for reducing overpressure in the package, wherein the passage openings of the individual compartments differ from each other such that overpressure in individual compartments is maximized at different pressure levels.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the compartments are shielded from the environment by making use of a material layer.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the passage openings are blocked prior to use of the package, and open under the influence of pressure in the compartments.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the passage openings are blocked prior to use of the package, and <u>independently</u> open under the influence of a determined temperature being exceeded.

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Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the separate passage openings are provided with pressure valves acting at different pressure levels.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the individual compartments have passage openings with a total passage surface varying per compartment.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the passage openings are blocked prior to use of the package by means of a cover element fixed with an adhesive layer, wherein the adhesive layer softens at a determined temperature.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The package as claimed in claim 22, wherein a single cover element covers a plurality of passage openings and that weakened portions are arranged in the cover element at the position of the passage openings.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the passage openings are arranged in the material layer with which the compartments are shielded from the environment.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The package as claimed in claim 16, wherein the passage openings are arranged in the container.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): An assembly <u>comprising</u> of <u>a</u> the package as claimed in claim 16 and a plurality of <u>food</u> products, in particular food products, placed in the individual compartments.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): A method for heating to different temperatures with a heating source a plurality of products for heating, in particular food products, placed in a single container, by heating with a heating source the container with a plurality of separated compartments provided with the products for heating, wherein an overpressure is created in

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the compartments which is bounded by passage openings connecting onto the individual compartments,

wherein different passage openings of the individual compartments maximize the pressure in different compartments at different pressures thus occurring different temperatures in the compartments.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the container is heated with a single heating source.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the container is placed in an oven.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein after heating the compartments are made accessible for a meal by detaching a material layer.